



State of California  
The Natural Resources Agency  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	National Forest Foundation, San Bernardino National Forest Post-Fire Restoration and Forest Health Project		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	San Bernardino National Forest: Mountaintop Ranger District, T1N, R1E, Sec. 13, 21-24 and 26; T1N, R2E, Sec. 19-21, 27-29 and 33-35; T1N, R3E, Sec. 8 and 20; T1S, R2E, Sec. 1-3. T2N, R3W, Sec. 5- 8, 18; and T2N, R4W, Sec. 13. Front Country Ranger District, T1N, R1W, Sec. 21, 22, 27, 28, and 33. San Jacinto Ranger District, T5S, R2E, Sec. 24; T5S, R3E, Sec. 15-17, 19-22, 28, 30-32; T6S, R2E, Sec. 13, 24, 25, and 36; T6S, R3E, Sec. 4-10, 15-36; T7S, R3E, Sec. 1-3, and 12; and T7S, R4E, Sec. 5-8, 17, and 18.	<b>COUNTY</b>	San Bernardino
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
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### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

CAL FIRE would provide funding to the National Forest Foundation to conduct fuel reduction treatments, including thinning & piling, pruning, mastication, lop and scatter, invasive plant removal as well as pile and broadcast burning in San Bernardino National Forest. These treatments will reduce wildfire risks to local resources and community members, promote native plant and wildlife species, and improve forest health and resiliency.

### EXEMPTION STATUS

- Categorical Exemption Type and Section: Class
- Statutory Exemption (state code section): Public Resources Code Section 4799.05(d)(1)
- Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
- Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

### REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

CEQA does not apply to fuel reduction, reforestation, & habitat restoration projects undertaken, in whole or in part, on federal lands to reduce the risk of high severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the NEPA, if the primary role of a state or local agency is providing funding or staffing for those projects. The proposed project was reviewed in its entirety under five NEPA documents: 1) Decision Memo – Lake Fire Restoration and Hazardous Tree Removal Project signed on 3/16/17; 2) Grass Valley Fire Restoration Project Environmental Assessment & Decision Notice/Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) signed on 9/30/19; 3) Thomas Mountain Fuels Reduction Project Environmental Assessment & Decision Notice/FONSI signed on 5/11/09; 4) Decision Memo – Cranston Fire Reforestation Project signed on 11/12/20; and 5) Angelus Oaks Understory Burn Project Environmental Assessment & Decision Notice/FONSI signed on 4/24/12.

### DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING

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11/18/2022

John Melvin, Assistant Deputy Director  
Resource Management  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Date